

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01 INR-05 L-02

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FM AMEMBASSY ATHENS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6612

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LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ATHENS 8879

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PING, GR

SUBJ: "NEW DEMOCRACY" DEPUTY RESIGNS FROM PARLIAMENT

1. SPYROS THEOTOKIS, "NEW DEMOCRACY" DEPUTY FROM CORFU, ANNOUNCED RESIGNATION FROM PARLIAMENT SEAT WHICH HE WON IN NOVEMBER 17 ELECTIONS. IN LETTER OF RESIGNATION THEOTOKIS CITED TWO REASONS FOR HIS ACTION: (A) FAILURE OF ND LEADERSHIP (CARAMANLIS) TO TAKE STAND ON REFERENDUM ISSUE (CROWNED OR UNCROWNED DEMOCRACY) AND (B) GOVERNMENT'S REFUSAL TO DISCLOSE ITS INTENTIONS ON NEW CONSTITUTION THAT PARLIAMENT WILL BE ASKED TO RATIFY.

2. AFTER LETTER OF RESIGNATION READ TO PARLIAMENT, GEORGE RALLIS, MINISTER TO THE PM, STATED THAT THEOTOKIS HAD IN FACT BEEN AWARE OF THE ND POSITION ON THE ISSUE OF THE REGIME AT THE TIME HE JOINED THE NEW DEMOCRACY TICKET.

3. THEOTOKIS IS A LONG-TIME DEPUTY, HAVING BEEN FIRST ELECTED IN 1934. DURING THE LATE 50'S AND EARLY 60'S HE SERVED PM CARAMANLIS AS BOTH FOREIGN MINISTER AND FINANCE MINISTER.

STEARNS

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Message Attributes

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